

## MINUTES

### STREETS & DRAINAGE

TUESDAY – JUNE 24, 2025 – 4:30 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Members present: Chair Robert Warren, Keith Klimek, and Joel Ahrens.

Others Attending: Mayor Katie Berman and Public Works Director Matt Decur, & Alderman Tony O'Neill.

Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Motion by Warren and seconded by Klimek to approve the agenda. Motion carried 3/0.

#### Minutes:

Motion by Warren and seconded by Klimek to approve the May 28, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried 3/0.

#### West Park Drive Reconstruction Project update:

The DNR wetland delineation has been completed, with only minimal adjustments needed. Robert E. Lee & Associates will now begin securing the necessary DNR permits and approvals, which will also support the development of the bid package for contractors.

The project remains on track for an 8-week construction timeline, with work anticipated to take place from early September through October. The projected start date is September 2, 2025.

Public Works Director Matt Decur and Mayor Katie Berman are actively collaborating with the school district to develop traffic detour plans to minimize disruption during construction. Once finalized, both the City and the school district will coordinate efforts to ensure timely and effective communication with the public.

#### Recycling for commercial properties:

Decur is conferring with DNR to see if we can combine a limited amount of commercial recycling within the parameters of the residential recycling grant.

Also spoke with Harter's regarding their capacity to collect commercial recycling. The current contract is based on approximately 1,000 residential carts and any expansion would be limited by the number of trucks allocated to the city. A count of eligible commercial properties, particularly within the B2 zoning (downtown commercial district), is needed to determine feasibility. Depending on the total number of participating properties, the City may need to renegotiate the contract with Harter's if current capacity is exceeded.

#### Refuse for commercial properties:

Currently approximately 80 businesses have 238 refuse carts. Discussion was held on how carts were allocated to businesses. As businesses with 4 or more carts need replacement carts, they will be asked to look for a dumpster for their business. Berman and Decur will get a letter together for businesses to relay this information for committee review and implementation.

Discuss/consider Adopt-a-Drain program:

The committee discussed increased street flooding caused by aging storm sewer infrastructure and more frequent, intense storms. While the City continues maintenance—root cutting, pipe repairs, and twice-yearly street sweeping—residents are encouraged to help by keeping storm drains clear of grass clippings and leaves.

A public awareness campaign will be launched using flyers, the website, Facebook, and possibly water bills. Though no formal Adopt-a-Drain program is planned at this time, future educational efforts and volunteer engagement may expand. The existing ordinance against blowing grass into the street will be highlighted with light enforcement reminders, supported by safety-conscious groups like bike clubs.

Discuss/consider parking around Post Office:

A resident requested improved drive-up access and additional parking at the post office. Due to a federal moratorium, no drive-up options can be added. The City explored potential angled parking on Thompson Street, but concerns were raised about feasibility, safety, and enforcement—particularly with large vehicles and existing driveway alignments.

The consensus was that additional parking is not currently necessary, given available parking on surrounding streets and in nearby lots. However, tree maintenance will be addressed on the north side of Thompson Street to keep all existing parking spots accessible. No further action planned at this time.

Streets & Drainage report:

- Brush Collection: Crews continue brush pickup as time allows. Resident calls about brush piles are appreciated to help target limited service hours.
- Grass Clippings: Residents may drop off grass clippings 24/7 at the City Garage.
- Stump Grinding: Contractor ground over 40 stumps; a few remain and will be completed upon return. Crews are following up with topsoil, seed, and mulch.
- Tree Inventory: Approximately 95 dead/dying (mostly ash) trees identified for removal. City will pursue grants and continue removals through summer and winter, as time permits.
- Retirement Notice: Pat Spangenberg to retire end of September; may finish earlier due to leave. Personnel Committee will address backfilling the position to maintain fall/winter coverage.
- Pavement Striping: Paint supplies are in; glass bead shipment delayed. Striping will begin as soon as materials arrive and weather allows.

Other matters: None

Set future meeting:

The next Streets & Drainage meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Motion by Warren and seconded by Ahrens to adjourn at 5:04 p.m. Motion carried 3/0.

Katie Berman, Mayor